

Montgomery Place - Farmhouse
Annandale Road
Barrytown Vicinity
Dutchess County
New York

HABS No. NY-5625-A

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MONTGOMERY PLACE - FARMHOUSE

Location: Annandale Road, Barrytown vicinity,
Dutchess County, New York

Present Owner: Montgomery Place Orchards, Inc.

Present Use: Tenant Cottage

Significance: The bracketed Italian farmhouse at Montgomery Place designed by A.J. Davis in 1861 is closely related to his design in A.J. Downing's The Architecture of Country Houses. This picturesque board and batten cottage demonstrates Davis' favorite style of rural architecture.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: References to the farmhouse appear in Davis's Day Book, Volume II, pages 180-182, for June 15-19, 1861. Also, the New York Historical Society has a print (No. 120a) which illustrates "Farm Cottage for C.L. Barton, Montgomery Place No. 3" dated 1861 and initialed "A.J.D."
2. Architect: Alexander Jackson Davis
3. Original and subsequent owners: See Montgomery Place, HABS No. NY-5625. John Ross Delafield and his wife Violetta conveyed the farm land to Montgomery Place Orchards, Inc. for \$27,270. on February 3, dated 1861 and initialed "A.J.D."
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Peter A. Harris, the carpenter for Montgomery Place in the 1860s, was responsible for the additions to the main house as well as the outbuildings. His name appears on the farmhouse drawings at the Avery Library, Columbia University, New York.
5. Original plan and construction: A.J. Davis shared Downing's convictions about rural and landscape architecture in America. He provided Downing with many farmhouse and cottage designs for his publications, including The Architecture of Country Houses.

the 1850 edition contains "A Bracketed Cottage with Veranda." Design X, which resembles the 1861 Barton farmhouse.

Downing described Davis' design as

A pleasing, symmetrical form, some picturesqueness of a roof, united to considerable simplicity of construction, and an expression of more domestic enjoyment than cottages of this size usually exhibit, are the characteristics of the design.

The Montgomery Place farmhouse demonstrates Davis' moderate reworking of his earlier bracketed design to the rural Italian style, merely by adding arched windows, three Palladian windows, and a balustrade.

Five of the eleven farmhouse drawings show the farmhouse as it was built, although with minor differences. The actual floor plans, however, are within inches of the dimensions specified on the drawings. The drawings for the east elevation do not show the present small Palladian window. Originally the two first floor windows on the south elevation were to be French windows, but now are a six sash and casement type.

The barns were constructed by Peter A. Harris, but there is a clue that suggests Davis may have participated as an advisor. Davis wrote in his Day Book, Volume II, page 180, "June 15-17 (1861) Examination of Montgomery Place and Arboretum, visiting several outbuilding sites. Barn, Garden, Farm, Gate."

6. Alterations and additions: Three changes were made to the farmhouse: the chimneys were rebuilt and are smaller than they appear on the drawings, the one story shed portion was extended and a chimney added, and the porch on the south elevation has been enclosed partially.

[For the rest of Part I Section B. Physical History, Part II Sources of Information, and Part III Project Information see: MONTGOMERY PLACE MANSION HABS No. NY-5625.]